

Horse Secrets

By Maria



The tall green grass, the brand new colorful flowers, the horses running and cantering. I thought about this all day, but by the time I knew it, it was already 3 pm and I had absolutely nothing in my notebook, and it was already time to leave. My name is Sarah Whitney, I am a 16 year old teenager who has a passion for riding horses. I go to a boarding school called, "Woodland High Academy". At the end of the school year, SUMMER VACATION begins. For three months of no school I can do almost anything I want. Woodland High Academy is at least three hours away from home. I really miss my family. My father is a man who owns a lot of land. I have two brothers and our grandparents who live with me and my parents. As I see everyone getting off at their bus stop, I think of what my parents will say if they find out that I did nothing but daydream and not work.

The night I arrive home I see my father standing there looking at me with a mysterious look as if he knew something I didn't. I started to worry, but all I could do was walk up to him, and he does the unexpected, he "HUGS ME!". When we arrive home, I see a banner with the words, "WELCOME HOME, WE MISSED YOU!". My mother, with a cake in her hand started to cry her eyes out when she looked at me. Bright and early the next morning at about 5:00 AM, I tiptoed down the stairs trying very hard not to wake up my parents. Heading out to the barn I hear the horses already awake and ready to go for a ride. I open the stall door to one of my favorite horses, Ginger. Ginger is a chestnut mare with a coat color of cream. She has a light blond color on her main and on her tail. I quickly saddle her up to get going. I direct her onto the path of which I remember my father would take me on as a little girl. I remember he would let me ride in the front and sometimes let me hold the reins. We would go up the mountain and watch wild horses care for their new born, teaching them how to walk, feeding them and being there for them. It was just like my parents teaching me all those things. On the trail ride, I can see how excited Ginger is to be walking and not being stuck in that old, crummy barn with nothing to do but eat and become fat. When I got back, I could see over the horizon my father with a scary look on his face and I knew this was not going to be good. Inside the house I see my father walking toward the fax machine, he picks up what's on the fax machine and hands it to me. It's a letter and this is what is said:

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Whitney, I am to inform you that your daughter, Sarah has failed to complete an assignment from the Midterm Exam, the assignment was to write 10,000 words on something that makes him or her passionate about something. If you want your daughter to get a better grade on the exam, you can make your daughter write the 10,000 word essay in a notebook and have her hand it in on the first day of school. Sincerely, Mr. Jones."

I knew this was going to happen sooner or later. My father was so angry that I honestly thought I saw deep, red burning fire in his eyes. Since yesterday, I have been grounded to write at least for an hour everyday in my notebook. My mother was so disappointed when she found out. My father and I argued about this in the morning, "Sarah can you honestly tell me why didn't you finish the assignment?", "I was going to write it down, but I didn't know what to write", "But it doesn't take you that long to think, they gave you like an hour and a half!".

Chapter 2

The next day, I went down to breakfast, I thought this was just going to be another day, but out of the blue I hear a familiar voice, I knew I had heard before. It seemed to be coming from outside. Can you guess who it was? "Hey what's up, Sarah! Long time no see". OH MY GOSH!. I never ever in my life would have thought to see the very same guy who pushed me down a well when I was 6, and who would always be jealous of me for being a fantastic rider. It was Danny. The last time I saw Danny was when he moved all the way to Nevada, after that I thought he was long gone. What was he doing in Willow Creek?

"Daddy, why is Danny here in Willow Creek?" "Sarah don't you remember, I told you two days ago that Danny was coming back" "Dad are you sure because I think I would have remembered" "Well yes I did tell you and be sure to be nice to him because they are moving in next door." To make sure I didn't get stuck talking to him while his parents went to move everything in next door, I would just go into town and get away from him.

Riding into town with Ginger I see many people that I hadn't seen in a while. Willow Creek is a small town where the neighbors are super nice and friendly. As I see the mini mart of Mrs. Chatterman. As I am entering the market who would I see other than the meanest girl at school, Rachel Gold. Rachel Gold is the richest girl at boarding school, she is the most popular out of all the girls. Every boy in school has asked her out but of course she rejects them all. Of course there is only one guy I know that she wouldn't reject, Danny. Rachel has dark blonde curly hair and she also rides horses. She is my worst enemy.

"Well, well, well, who do we have here?" Rachel said. "Hello Rachel!" "Well if it isn't Sarah Whitney, the farm girl." For your information, I am a farm girl but I am also a champion rider, I also go to a stables to practice my riding, but of course how could she know that if she doesn't even know me that well. Any way getting back to what I was saying, "Rachel do you even know who you are talking to, I am not just a farm girl but I am as wealthy as you are." "Hahaha, you a wealthy person, come on Sarah all your dad owns is land, while my father owns a business company in Paris. She was so getting on my nerves and I was about to crack open like a nut shell and scream at her.

Chapter 3

It had been along time since Rachel and I were friends. We were friends from kindergarten until second grade. Second grade is when it all started to change, Rachel's parents became rich, Rachel started to become more popular because she bribed

everyone to become her friend except me. In terms of my family and hers both of us are equally rich, the only reason my family doesn't have a luxurious house is because my family and I know that we don't need a huge house to be happy, all we need is each other. But of course how could she know that if her family is never together, her dad is always on business trips ,and her mother is always working and always leaves early for work that the only time she has time for Rachel is on weekends in the afternoons. I feel so bad for Rachel and the only reason I know this is because when we were still friends in second grade she would invite me to her house for a play date and the only people that were around was her nanny and the maids.

You might not be aware of this but Rachel is also a rider she takes riding lessons at the same stables as me. Her specialty is dressage, and this is when you combine pretty moves and it looks like you and your horse are dancing. The only way this could work if is you and the horse are in perfect sync.

"So I see you finally decided to show up here in Willow Creek", "Be quiet, Rachel!" I said in an angry manner, "So when are you going to change that ugly horse, for a better looking one, you should get a horse just like my dear horse, Rose" Rose is the finess horse here, she is a brown mare with a dark brown main and tale. I agree she is a real beauty but I would never change Ginger for other horses.

Finally away from Rachel, thinking there would not be any other bad news, matters were worse at my house. Back at home I find my father in the living room with a horrible look on his face and I knew something was up.

"Sarah, I have something to tell you, but I doubt your going to take it well." "What is it dad?", "Sarah, I... am... selling Ginger!" "What did you just say, that you're selling Ginger!" "Yes I am, I am so sorry". "Why are you selling her?", "A man came in today this morning while you were in bed and he was looking for a horse and so he took a look at the horses and he thought Ginger was the horse, and he is offering a lot of money and so I aid yes". "You could have at least asked me before you made the decision!" I yelled at my father with all my might. "When is she leaving?". "Tonight at 8."

So frustrated, I angrily left the house stomping my feet. It took me some time to finally realize that this is what my father was talking about when we first got Ginger. He had said to me that sooner or later things or even people will eventually have to leave you and you will have to try to deal with it. But how will I deal with it?, it's not just like I can annul Ginger from my memory. She and I have had some good times,like when she learned to run, she would always come to me,and that always made me happy .That same afternoon my father tried reasoning with me, but no use I was still very angry at him.

Comment [1]: MsSpiezio:
question mark

Comment [2]: MsSpiezio:
YAY!

Comment [3]: MsSpiezio:
give me an example

Chapter 4

That night when Ginger left, I felt like my heart was taken out of me and was hit with a hammer over and over until it was broken into pieces. I was so melancholy that my parents decided to have a camp out outside to cheer me up. We roasted marshmallows, we made up our own songs together. Then we finally came to the ghost stories, I was having so much fun, but then it came back the sadness of Ginger leaving. It had come back when my older brother remembered this real story about people seeing a horse up in the mountains.

"So this is the story about the haunting horse ghost" my brother said. "They say that there has been sightings of this horse millions of time, it all started when this horrible rider had trouble taming her black wild horse, she finally got tired of always falling off that she started mistreating her horse. Then, they say that the horse finally got tired of being hurt, and so it went wild and started to hurt its trainer, after that, the horse ran off into the woods never to be seen again. A lot of people today think that it was a killer horse that was never tamed. They say that on a calm breezy night you can still hear the horse's voice and the stomping of his feet." After this I couldn't sleep at all because I kept having a nightmare of me being in the wide open meadow and then this horse appearing out of nowhere and stomping over me. Thank God that it was just a dream.

The next day I was invited by my father to go look at some more horses and see which one I could pick. We decided that the best ones would be up in the mountains. I thought about how everything went on so fast, it's not like before where I was always out in the fields riding, it's more different now and I have to try and get used to it. It's just how my mother had taught me. She taught me that everything has to leave sooner or later but in return you get something new. It's just like in nature, one thing goes and another thing grows. So just like Ginger left, I will soon get something new. We found nothing, there were a lot of very nice horses but none of them really fit me. We decided to go our separate ways my father would go north and I would go south.

Chapter 5

Walking through the morning mountains was really fun, but it was very foggy when I got up south. Somehow, somewhere in my heart I knew that I would find the right horse out here. All of a sudden, I hear these weird noises but I knew what it was. Right there and then I remember the story my brother had told us around the campfire. I pleaded that it would not be that killer black horse. I walk the horse slowly through the fog, making my way to the other side of the mountains. Safely out of the fog I jump in happiness that the black horse was not there, but then I stop, I feel a presence behind me. I turn around slowly when right there in front of me was That killer horse, I was face to face with a beast. I waited for it to attack, but it never did. I was confused, why didn't it attack, I knew for sure this was the horse in the story. I stepped a little bit closer,

in suspense I was but as soon as I looked into those big brown eyes I just saw sadness in her. Our eyes were locked, she looked at me and I looked at her. I don't know what happened but I started to climb up on her back, it was like my body was in control of me. There was something about her that I loved, her coat was black, one of my favorite colors, she also had a white little marking running down her forehead, and that reminded me of Ginger. Right there I knew that she was the perfect horse for me, lucky me she listened to me and never tried to run. But when I turned to leave, I had no idea of where I was, I realized that I was lost, but what would I do. It was already dark and the only company I had was from the two horses and the crescent moon in the sky. The horse just started pulling me toward the fog. I had no idea where we were going but in about an hour or two we were back home.

Back home on the ranch, I call out to my dad, "DAD GET OUT HERE I FOUND SOMETHING THAT MIGHT SURPRISE YOU!" My father quickly ran out of the house, but when he saw that horse he was very angry.

"Sarah, do you know what you have just brought home,?", I speechless thought he was going to be very happy, but I was so much very wrong.

"You my friend is very much..... LUCKY!" What is the world, I thought he might yell and ground me but he even surprised me.

"Wait, what does this mean I can keep her?" "Oh yes in deed my little princess." I was so excited that I was able to keep her, but I couldn't decide what to name her, and then it hit me.

"Dad, I have the perfect name for her.... her name will be..... Luna" "Why that name pumpkin?" "Because, she is the one who helped me get home and it was like the moon had guided her through the thick foggy mountains." That is how I finally had found the perfect horse.

You would not believe it even if I told you, guess who came looking for a new horse, none other than Rachel, apparently her horse Rose passed away when it was bitten by a snake on a trail ride just a few weeks ago. Hidden away in the old barn, Luna was filled with anger, she was ready to break through and go. I knew somehow that Rachel would think Luna was perfect so I hid her away. After she had left, I carefully backed away, making enough room for her to get out. Sadly, Luna hated getting saddled up, and I found out the hard way, when we first went on a mountain ride she wouldn't even get close enough she would run around the rink. The next morning I took Luna to Pine Creek Stables, this is where I come almost every day to practice and to get my lessons my dad pays for. The stables is like my home, this place is filled with bright green pine trees and the shiny water here is like a stream of silver fish swimming up and down. We have the cleanest water ever and the best teachers ever. My friends and I always meet up here, and today I want them to see my new horse and friend.

"SARAH OVER HERE!" my friend Liza called out. "Hey Liza where is Susan?" I asked. "She's with her horse, Belle" "Okay then, meet me at our secret lake, there is

someone I want you to see." My best friends Liza and Susan are the best both their horse are beautiful, Liza's horse it named Starlight, he is a stallion, he has a shiny golden coat like the color of the a new ring. His mane flows thought the wind like a stream though the forest. Then there's Susan's horse, her name is Belle and Belle has the coat of dark chocolate, she has the best jumps ever.

Chapter 6

"Hey, Susan I wonder who Sarah wanted us to meet?" "I have no idea, oh maybe it's a cute boy she met!" "I don't think so, she was to excited and remember we would never bring anyone to our secret lake." "Hey there she is, but that's a different horse, that's not Ginger!"

So I guess they were surprised because when I got there their mouths were hanging out like the tippy top of a pointy cliff.

"Who in the world is that horse, Sarah that's not Ginger, where's Ginger?" Susan exclaimed. "OK, ok calm down you two", "Sarah where's Ginger and what are you doing with this horse?" said Liza. " This is who I wanted you guy's to meet" "What?" they both exclaimed. "I didn't tell you guys but my dad sold Ginger to someone over the weekend" "Oh, why would your father do that, you love Ginger" Susan said sadly. "Yes I know I but my dad had a good reason, and besides my mother taught me that when something goes another thing grows and man did our horse friendship grow fast," "Well I guess you're right, now what's the horses name." Susan exclaimed in a gingerly voice. "She is a mare and her name is..... Luna!"

For the next few days it was a great experience, because it was like I was seven again. My dad was acting so strange because he kept inviting me to go on a mountain ride with him, something in my mind told me that he was going to tell me something eventually, and this has happened before, like when my dad told me I was going to get a horse he acted up by letting me take his horse around the front yard and then it had finally come out, it was so exciting. When the day came that I knew that my father was going to say something but it was bad news for me and great news for him.

"Sarah, you know your friend Dan right?", "Yes, but dad we are not friends anymore" "Oh, well anyway, I was thinking since all you do is stay home and take care of the horses, well I was thinking,..... why don't you hang out with him somewhere." "Dad....., oh, ok fine but you owe me" "Ok then"

Well it wasn't that painful, all we did was go to PineCreek stables, but I should have done it on another day when Rachel was going to be there. At least I didn't run into Liza and Susan, but of course I...was wrong.

"Nice stables you got here" Dan exclaimed, "Yes I know, anyway we should saddle up and get going", "Where are we going Sarah", "We are going up on a trail ride my some of friends here, since today our teachers decided we all should use some time

of. We will be leaded my favorite teacher, Mack.” “Oh is he a rider here or does he teach a class or he just runs Pine Creek Stables?” “The last one, yeah he runs Pine Creek but his mother teaches a few classes and so does he.” “Anyway come on we are going to miss the trail ride.” The rest of the day was pretty fun, it turns out we have a lot in common.

Chapter 7

_____ Well its been almost a month since I found Luna, but we have had some trouble resently, like how she won't listen to anything my dad tells her to do or how she acts up around my father. The only person she listens to is me and no one else, everyday when I go with my brothers to their rehearsal for a play that they are doing at the community center, she acts all sad and is always trying to get out of her stall. I guess she really hates being with out me. She still hasn't adjusted to everyone. I have finally finished that essay that I never finished for my test. So far it looks good I just hope my parents let me go when I finish up.

The day is bright and early, the sun is rising and the horses are finally awake. I quickly go downstairs to get Luna ready for our morning run, it makes both of us feel good and refreshed. We both go though the fogness of the mountains running up the mountains, I hang on tightly leading Luna up and over. We come across this huge log, Luna and I were ready, I hold on and give her the command. She starts to run, the wind in our hairs and she leaped like in the fairytale “The cow jumped over the moon!”

When I got back to the ranch, there were some bad news waiting for me. “Hey Sarah do you remember your old friend Rachel Gold” “Yes, but what is she doing here?” “Well you know how your horse has been acting up?” “Yes but thats only because.....” then I was rudly interrupted by my father again. “Well I decided that since it is very hard for you to train her then I have decided to sell her to someone who is very good with horses” “WHAT! Dad what have you done Rachel is just buying her to get back at me for making her look bad in front of people when we were in second grade!” “Now I know you are upset but come on we can buy you or get you another horse.” “Dad, why do you have to do this.... I wish you would just leave me alone!” “I have a good reson come on, Rachel just wants to get a new horse and I said that you had found one.”

That afternoon I had no idea of what to do, after Luna had left I had only one thing to do, and that thing is TO GET LUNA BACK! When everyone was finally asleep, I carefully crept downstairs, and outside was waiting none other than Dan, he was going to help me get my friend back.

“Alright Dan, you know the plan, first you will try to distract the security guards, then while they are not looking I try and find a way to et into the stables. After that when you have finished with the guards you will meet me in the stables where we will try and

get Luna out!" "Ok got it, lets do it!" Outside in the yard Dan was doing a really good job on distracting the guards by makin noises with things like the rocks and other items and that surely got the guards attention. While Dan was doing that I quietly crept though the green and dak bushes making sure do one heard me. Now inside the barn I look for Luna's stall, haha I have finally found her, but the name Rachel gave Luna was the weirdess I have ever head, she had put on the name of Arashia, and something from that name made me think that Rachel didn't evem know Luna was a girl. Thank god Luna listened to me and she atleast coapporated with me. Now that we were back in the car, just waiting for Dan to come back, all that was left of our plan was for Rachel to come looking for her horse and then for her to realize that Luna and I belong together.

Back at home I knew I was in big trouble because when we got back in was already morning and something tells me one of my brothers had been up and checking on me, and when they saw I was gone they told mom and dad.

"SARAH,where were you your brothers and your mother have been looking all over for you and Dan's parents are worried sick!" " I asked Dan to help me get my best friend back, Dad you can't keep me away from someone I love and you know how much I love Luna and the other horses, I am sorry dad but you and Rachel left me no choice" " Wait you broke into a house to get something back?" " Dad... I didn't brake into a house just a barn and not a something but a someone, and thats Luna who I went back for." Just then Rachel and her parents had finally found out about Luna and had decided to pay us a visit because they somehow knew that I had taken the horse.

"There you are, Mr.Whitney your daughter is a thief she took my brand new horse away and she is going to pay!" Yelled Rachel. "You don't deserve that horse Rachel it won't even listen to you will it?" "Actually it will I will show you" As Rachel gets on Luna does the expected, she starts to jump up and down and does not even listen when Rachel tells her to stop and finally Rachel is thrown off.

"Why in the world did he do that I am his trainer?" said Rachel "Excuse me to interrupt but for your information Rachel, Luna is not a he, she is a girl, and you call yourself a trainer." "Wait, what it was a girl the whole time? Well thats better for me because I want a mare and by the way Sarah I am still keeping her" "Why are you doing this Rachel what did I ever do to you?" " Oh like you don't know, you forgot all about me and stopped being my friend, after you and your friends Susan and Liza became know as the Galloping club you forgot all about me and that is why I try and ruin your life just like you ruind mine" "Wait what no,no,no you got it all wrong you dumped me remeber, in second grade is when it all started, you always excluded me out of everything and I never did anything." I was confused but someone in the crownd actually knows what happened and it wasn't because of money or friends it was because of a horse, Dan actually remembered what had happened.

Chapter 8

"Wait you too it was never because of any of those reasons, it was because of jealousy over a horse, I remember that when Sarah had learned to ride she had showed the class for show and tell and when everyone was amazed of it, Rachel thought that everyone liked Sarah's talent better than hers and that is when Rachel started to ride, she competed with Sarah to see which one was the best but Sarah never thought of it that way." That is when it hit me he was right, Rachel got so jealous that she wanted to be the center of attention and you wouldn't believe what she did next when she had finally remembered. Rachel walked over slowly and then just gave me a hug.

"I am sorry I never had thought that it would be because I was jealous, I had thought wrong, can you ever forgive me?" I thought about it and then I knew that every person should get a second chance, even if she is rude and mean.

"Yes, yes I will forgive you and I hope you can forgive me, I never had thought that my skills would lead to this" I said crying my eyes out. After that Rachel had given me a present she decided that I should keep Luna because after our hug I got on Luna and rode and when she saw how good she listened to me she had decided to let go of a Luna and give her back.

Well here we are at the end, it is finally the first day of school, Rachel who once was my enemy has become my friend and Dan has been transferred into my class and after him helping me, I decide to forgive him even if he is a jerk. As for me and Luna, she has finally learned to trust others and now we usually go on trail rides a lot but only when I go to PineCreek Stables, but when summer comes once again she and I will be unstoppable. The End.